

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

WAVELENGTH DROP WITH INTEGRAL OPTICAL AMPLIFIER

the specification of which is identified by Application Serial No. 09/902,508, filed July 10, 2001 (P30296US).

I hereby claim the benefit of the filing date of the following US applications under 35 USC Section 120:
NONE

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known by me which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56, including material information which became available between the filing date of the above-referenced application(s).

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s): Gordon T. Arnold, Reg. No. 32,395, Kenneth P. Beyers, Reg. No. 36,409, H. Artoush Ohanian, Reg. No. 46,022, Erik J. Osterrieder, Reg. No. 48,966, and Mark Young, Reg. No. 48,669, all of the firm Arnold & Associates, 2603 Augusta, Suite 800, Houston, Texas 77057, telephone number (713) 972-1150, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

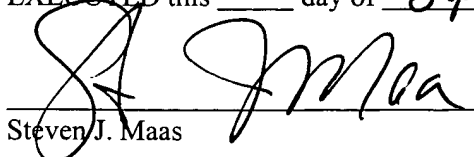
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EXECUTED this 6th day of Sept, 2001.



Steven J. Maas